

The MONTEBELLO Voice

an independent gazette

from sea to shining sea

July 13, 2017



Good Shepherd Housing & Family Services' school supplies drive

By Betsy Sprouse

Thanks to the Mt. Vernon community's generosity last year, Good Shepherd Housing & Family Services was able to assist 98 youths (47 families) with backpacks and school supplies. They are holding another school supply drive this year, and welcome your donations of any (or all!) of the following items:

NEW backpacks (please NO corporate logos or wheels): Regular size child backpacks, large enough to fit pocket folders. (Mini backpacks, we know are adorable, but are too small.)

Glue sticks

12 ct. Crayola colored pencils

Dry erase markers – chisel tip

Crayola markers – thin or thick

Ink pens – blue, black, red and green

1-, 3-, and 5-subject notebooks

Pink bar erasers

3 x 5 index cards

Pencils

Zippered pencil pouches

Pencil sharpener w/covers

Scientific calculators

Earbuds and headsets

5- or 8-subject divider tabs

3 x 3" Post It notes

Pocket folders with brads

Pocket folders without brads

Scissors – blunt and sharp

Marbleized composition notebooks

Loose leaf paper – college & wide ruled

1-, 1½,- 2- and 3-inch three-ring binders

Good sources for these items at reasonable prices include the Five and Below store at Mt. Vernon Plaza and the Family Dollar Store at Mt. Vernon Crossroads Center, both in Hybla Valley; warehouse stores; office supply stores (watch ads for sales); Target and

Walmart (again, watch ads for sales). You can also shop amazonsmile.com, click on Wish List, type in Good Shepherd Housing & Family Services, Alexandria VA, and items will be shipped directly to the GSH office.

You can drop off your school supply donations to the Mount Vernon at Home on the 2nd floor of the Sherwood Regional Library office by Tuesday, August 15, and they will coordinate with Good Shepherd Housing & Family Services for delivery. The Mount Vernon at Home office is generally open during the library's hours, but call them to make sure at 703-303-4060. You can also drop off your donations at the Good Shepherd office at 8205 Richmond Highway (9 a.m.-5 p.m., closed for lunch 12-1 p.m.).

New Interest Group: Great Decisions

By Channing Huhn

Great Decisions is a nationwide group that meets to discuss foreign policies both past and present. The group is organized by the Foreign Policy Association (fpa.org) and works from an annual briefing book of eight policy decisions. Meetings are open to all levels of expertise and can be supplemented with a related DVD and guest speakers. If you have an interest in forming a group at Montebello, please contact me by email, channing46@msn.com.

Garage space swap

By Ginny Kandt

I live in Bldg. 3. My car space is in Bldg. 4. Anyone in Bldg. 4 with a car space in Bldg. 3 who would like to trade? Call Ginny Kandt at 703-329-9041.

Special election alert

Submitted by Mary Goldwag

On August 29, Fairfax County will hold a Special Election for an At-large vacancy on the Fairfax County School Board, and we are working to elect Karen Keys-Gamarra. Karen was endorsed by the Fairfax County Democrats on Friday, June 23. Karen has advocated for children as an attorney for years, and she received the *Washington Post* endorsement.

Vote at your regular polling place August 29 from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.

For absentee voting information, go to www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/upcoming.htm.



Cover photos by Diane Bastin and Dian McDonald

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voices on the 37



Rebecca Mathis portrait by Anna Schalk from the Women of Montebello series

Loving a friend

Rebecca Mathis, a long-time resident of Montebello and a friend to many of us, is reaching the end of her struggle with cancer. Rebecca is now in hospice care while remaining in her Building 4 condo. I want to share with others the opportunity to contact Rebecca as she travels the journey of leaving this existence for the next. While she is facing her completion of this form of life with grace, she does wish to see or speak with Montebello friends. I receive personally sweet joy as Rebecca and I speak of the times we have had together. Please call her at 703-960-5434 or send an email to sculptor72@yahoo.com. I love you, Rebecca. – Anna Schalk

Restaurant Rave: Aldo's Italian Kitchen

By *Richard Coorsh*

2850 Eisenhower Avenue, Suite 1
Alexandria, VA 22314
8:30am – 7 pm Monday – Friday
(703) 888-2243
www.aldositaliankitchen.com

Aldo's Italian Kitchen may be the best local Italian eatery you've never heard of, if not the absolute best in the Alexandria area. The food is outstanding, the prices are reasonable, and the manager, Emanuele Cognetti, is incredibly charming and engaging and takes a genuine interest in all of his customers.

Aldo's is a bright, clean and spacious informal café located less than three miles away from Montebello. It's open for breakfast, lunch, and early supper. According to Mr. Cognetti, the recipes are his family recipes or were developed by the chef. Breakfast offerings include breakfast sandwiches, bagels, omelets, oatmeal, and yogurt parfaits. Lunch options include a wide range of fresh pastas and pasta sauces, soup of the day, salads, wraps, and sandwiches served on delicious fresh, warm crusty rolls, not slices of store-bought bread.

For supper (available 4 p.m. – 7 p.m.), Aldo's offers several larger plate selections, including pastas, chicken, veal, and salmon. Lunch and supper appetizers and side dishes include Arancini di Riso, Broccoli Di Rabe, and sautéed spinach.

Aldo's now offers personal-size (11-inch) pizza 11 a.m. – 7 p.m., with special toppings typically unavailable from the pizza chains, including pancetta, prosciutto, bresaola, Genoa salami, portabella mushrooms, and gorgonzola cheese. Make sure to check the daily specials, listed on a floor-mounted chalk bulletin board located at the entrance. Also, Aldo's serves dessert and offers a full catering menu.

Aldo's is open Monday through Friday and is closed on federal holidays.

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Although near, it may be tricky to find because it's located in the back of a low-rise office building on Eisenhower Avenue, across from a construction site.

To get there, go to the traffic light at the end of the ramp off Telegraph Road to Eisenhower Avenue. Turn left (west) onto Eisenhower Avenue, go over the small bridge in front of the Holiday Inn. Go straight through the traffic light at the Courtyard by Marriott (Mill Road), and take the very next left (look for the small green Aldo's sign on the building to your left).

After turning left, go to the small tree-filled traffic circle, make a three-quarters left, and look for Aldo's parking spaces to your left. If the parking spaces are occupied, turn around and look for non-reserved spaces in front of the other office buildings on the other side of the traffic circle.

If you haven't been to Aldo's, you should go, and if you already have been, go back! *Buon appetito!*

Nifty new iPad app for photography buffs

By *Regina Ryder*

It is one of my great joys to be part of this creative community. Your support for me when I did the digital art show in 2015 was heartwarming.

On multiple occasions, people have expressed interest to AiM that they would like to learn more about how to enhance their photos. I think you were heard. Just a few weeks ago, an extremely powerful photo editing tool came out on the iPad. This tool, called Affinity Photo iPad, has been giving the Photoshop guys a very hard time with their Mac customers, because the Apple Mac desktop version of Affinity Photo is both AFFORDABLE and FEATURE RICH!

This wonderful app is on sale "for a limited time" for \$20, and even when it goes off sale, it's a bargain at \$30!

If you have been wanting to learn more and possibly do more with your photos, using a "reasonably priced tool," this might be the one you've been waiting for. For people who are using older versions of Photoshop because upgrading is too pricey, you will find many familiar features in this app. This is the first high-end photo editing tool to reach the iPad.

Make no mistake, all these powerful tools will come with a learning curve. But we have AiM folks (and probably many non-AiM folks) who can help you get started, and you only have to take it as far as works for you. Also, today, there are so many great learning videos. Here's Affinity's for the iPad: <https://vimeo.com/223136819>.

I'm letting you all know about this because I wanted to make sure you knew about it while it was still on sale. If you love this idea, I do ask that you check to make sure your iPad is compatible (iPads four or more years old may not be, but check).

If you think you love this idea and would love AiM to arrange for a meet-up about it, reply/email me about that too. Let me know what you've been doing with Photoshop or INTERESTED in doing with Photoshop. There's lots of us on AiM who have the know how to tell you how easy or hard that might be to do.

If you are not sure, err on the side of caution and wait until you have had a chance to see it in action. I have no idea how long the 30% sale is going on, but \$10 more is probably not that big a deal to most of you.

I am learning this tool myself, so I will be in a better spot to talk about it in a month or two. But meanwhile, if you like the idea of getting creative with your wonderful stash of photos, I'd love to hear about that!

Here's the link to the site: <https://affinity.serif.com/en-us/photo/ipad/>.

Maybe it couldn't reach the call button

By Sarah Newcomb

As summer sets in, Montebello's lush woodlands teem with wildlife. Some even pay us a call. An adventurous American Green Tree Frog was spotted by Lauren Pierce as it clung to the glass door at Building 3's rear entrance. As amphibians, frogs are one of the most at-risk groups for extinction. Almost 50% of the world's frog species are imperiled. They face threats including habitat destruction, pollution, climate change, and diseases. Some have become extinct in the past couple of decades.

Frogs are important natural resources that deserve our attention. Eleven species of frog and two species of toad inhabit Fairfax County. Any change in the abundance of frogs like this could indicate habitat degradation. Frogs breathe through their skin, so they are especially sensitive to environmental change. Because of their aquatic and terrestrial life stages, frogs are excellent indicators of environmental health and water quality. They also provide a



free pest control service by consuming countless numbers of insects, including disease-spreading flies and mosquitoes, as well as rodent pests. In turn, they are food for a variety of animals.

Have you heard our Green Tree Frogs singing 🐸 from trees or shrubs as you walk Montebello's grounds on warm, humid, overcast nights? Their voices can be heard nearly a mile away. Green Tree Frog males use a distinct advertisement to call to mates. Mating

usually takes place after big rains in late spring or early summer. Most Green Tree Frog females breed once each year, but some have multiple clutches. Like nearly every species of frog, they lay their eggs in water, so in early summer they seek out a shallow pool in our woodlands. They winter in our hollow trees, hollow wooden cavities of fallen logs or under stumps.

It is easy to see how Montebello's woodlands provide a habitat for these delicate creatures. Our woodlands feature native shrubs and trees they look for. Frogs seek habitat like ours with leaves that stay where they fall naturally, and we also provide plenty of logs, rocks, and piles of branches and twigs as shelter. To maintain a delicate balance, authorities recommend minimizing herbicides and fertilizers as well as picking up after pets to avoid releasing bacteria and viruses in pet waste.

Our Green Tree Frog visitor never did get inside. But we can hear its soothing singing in the woodlands every night. 🐸



On June 25, the National Society of Arts and Letters Washington, D.C. chapter and the Montebello Music Club presented the winners of the Shirley Rabb Winston Classical Voice scholarships. From top left, accompanist Maestro Joseph Walsh, Nina Anderson, Cheranjana Thuyacontha, Mary Burke. Bottom, Carla Batka-Jones, mistress of ceremonies Sherry Watkins, Sarah Nalty, David Cook, Brenna McFarland. The singers performed arias by Tchaikovsky, Mozart, Bellini, Debussy, Copland, Verdi, Donizetti, and Gershwin, among others.

Photo by Dian McDonald

mix & mingle



mix & mingle



The originalist

By Richard Titus

During the 2016 elections, many voters said that a primary criterion for them would be the candidate's anticipated nominee for the vacant Antonin Scalia seat on the U.S. Supreme Court. In a TV discussion about filling the Scalia seat, it was mentioned that all of the current Supreme Court justices had received their legal education at an Ivy League law school.

The newest justice – Neil Gorsuch – is Harvard Law. What kind of a legal education might he have received? In their website section on Admissions, Harvard Law quotes approvingly the American Bar Association statement on “Preparing for Law School,” viz:

Undergraduate Education

The ABA does not recommend any undergraduate majors or group of

courses to prepare for a legal education. Students are admitted to law school from almost every academic discipline. You may choose to major in subjects that are considered to be traditional preparation for law school, such as history, English, philosophy, political science, economics or business, or you may focus your undergraduate studies in areas as diverse as art, music, science and mathematics, computer science, engineering, nursing or education.

Note that nine areas of study, (including art and music), are mentioned ahead of science and mathematics, computer science, and engineering. Only nursing and education are listed after those four. Thus, in an era in which science and technology are of ever-increasing importance, prior to entering law school our final arbiters of

law may have had no science or mathematics course work, and no exposure to a rigorous determination of fact. And while Harvard Law does offer an elective Law, Science, and Technology Program of Study, of the four identified Faculty Leaders none is a scientist or mathematician. In sum, it appears that in 2017, Harvard Law graduates can receive an education that in its essentials is little changed from centuries ago.

We have learned that Associate Justice Gorsuch identifies himself as an “originalist.” This stance has been defined as “...the view that the Constitution should be interpreted in accordance with its original meaning – that is, the meaning it had at the time of its enactment.” This is of course preposterous. We are not dealing with a chemical formula or a mathematical equation. Laws are composed of words, and lawyers are masters at getting words to mean what they want them to mean.

Republicans waited a year to get Gorsuch because they believed that his reading of the Constitution would be very conservative. And they were correct: he has so far proved to be to the right of Clarence Thomas. And note that Gorsuch is a young man and will be ruling on what the Framers really meant to say for the next forty years or more. Sadly, Gorsuch may not be Donald Trump's only Supreme Court appointment. Citizens United may be only the beginning. 🇺🇸



Art in Montebello member Rebecca McNeely is exhibiting her oil and acrylic paintings from the Colorscares series at Gallery Underground until the end of July. The venue is at 2100 Crystal Drive in Crystal City.

Demographic data reveal who we are

By Matthew Marlay

In this installment of Montebello by the Numbers, we'll take a look at how Montebello compares with the other geographic divisions it is nestled within: Huntington, ZIP code 22303, Fairfax County, Virginia, and the U.S. as a whole.

Demographics

The first table shows some demographic characteristics of Montebello and the other geographies. As you can see, there are disproportionately fewer children at Montebello, as well as a greater proportion of people 65+. (Stop the presses!) Just under 10% of Montebello's residents are children under the age of 18, compared with about 14% for 22303 and Huntington, and nearly a quarter in Fairfax County, the state of Virginia, and the United States. At the other end of the age spectrum,

about 39% of our residents are age 65 or older, a proportion 3-4 times greater than in the other areas. Along the same lines, the median age of our residents is 61.1 years, compared with mid-30s for Huntington and 22303 and late 30s for the other areas.

Women slightly outnumber men at Montebello, with 52% of our population being female. This result is in line with Fairfax County, Virginia, and the U.S. I am actually somewhat surprised by this, given the age distribution of our residents – because women generally live longer than men do, you would expect that a population that is disproportionately older would also be disproportionately female. Perhaps we have some very hale and hearty males living here!

In terms of race and ethnicity, Montebello is just under 70% white and just over 20% black. About 6.4% of residents are Hispanic. Our surrounding area is much less white and black (about

50% and 16%, respectively), and much more Asian and Hispanic (about 8-9% and 21-22%, respectively).

Finally, looking at marital status, a relatively low proportion of Montebellans have never married: Fewer than a quarter of our adult residents (those 15+) have never been married, compared with about 40% for Huntington and 22303, and about 30-32% for Fairfax, Virginia, and the U.S. The proportion of currently married adults is roughly the same in all jurisdictions, but our percentage of divorced/separated people, and widows/widowers, is quite a bit higher. Again, this last result is consistent with our age profile, as rates of widowhood increase with age.

Economics

Turning our attention to some economic characteristics, you can see in the second table how Montebello stacks up. Financially, we are better off than most. About 40% of our adults (those

aged 15+) earn more than \$75,000 per year, compared with about 30% for adults in the surrounding areas, and a much smaller proportion in Virginia and the whole U.S. (Of course, these numbers do not account for the higher cost of living in our area.) Our relatively high median household income shows the same story – the median is just over \$95,000, meaning that half of our constituent households make more than this and half make less. This is below the \$112,552 median for Fairfax County as a whole, but is quite a bit higher than the median for households in 22303

	Montebello	Huntington	22303	Fairfax Co.	Virginia	U.S.
AGE						
Under 18	9.5%	13.5%	13.9%	24.0%	22.6%	23.3%
Over 65	39.2%	11.2%	11.9%	11.1%	13.3%	14.1%
Median age	61.1	34.0	34.9	37.4	37.6	37.6
SEX						
Male	48.0%	52.4%	51.6%	49.5%	49.2%	49.2%
Female	52.0%	47.6%	48.4%	50.5%	50.8%	50.8%
RACE/ETHNICITY						
White	68.5%	49.6%	50.1%	52.6%	63.4%	62.3%
Black	21.4%	16.8%	15.9%	9.1%	18.9%	12.3%
Asian	0.5%	7.8%	9.0%	18.3%	5.9%	5.1%
Hispanic	6.4%	22.2%	21.4%	16.1%	8.6%	17.1%
Other	3.2%	3.6%	3.5%	3.9%	3.1%	3.2%
MARITAL STATUS						
Never Married	24.2%	40.1%	40.3%	30.6%	31.7%	32.8%
Married	47.6%	44.0%	43.9%	56.0%	50.1%	48.2%
Divorced/Separated	18.5%	12.7%	12.6%	9.5%	12.6%	13.1%
Widowed	9.6%	3.2%	3.2%	3.9%	5.6%	5.9%

montebello by the numbers

	Montebello	Huntington	22303	Fairfax Co.	Virginia	U.S.
INCOME						
Over \$75k	39.5%	30.0%	30.1%	30.8%	16.2%	11.6%
In poverty	9.1%	6.7%	6.2%	6.0%	11.5%	15.5%
Median HH income	\$95,313	\$86,970	\$87,708	\$112,552	\$65,015	\$53,889
EDUCATION						
Less than H.S.	1.5%	8.4%	8.7%	8.0%	11.7%	13.3%
High School	8.2%	11.9%	11.7%	13.0%	24.8%	27.8%
Some college/ Assoc.	23.5%	17.9%	18.8%	19.1%	27.2%	29.1%
Bachelor's	27.0%	30.8%	30.0%	30.9%	21.0%	18.5%
Graduate	39.9%	31.0%	30.9%	29.0%	15.4%	11.2%

and Huntington. It is also substantially higher than that for Virginia and the U.S., but again you would expect that given the higher cost of living in the D.C. area.

Conversely, we have fewer residents below the poverty line – fewer than 10% of our residents fall below the federal poverty line, compared with about 12% in Virginia and 16% in the U.S. I do take this result with a small grain of salt, given the expense of living here. I suspect that at least some of the people showing up as being below the poverty line might have substantial assets but relatively little income, making them appear to be in poverty despite being relatively wealthy. Of course, my intention is not to take anything away from those Montebello residents who are struggling financially – we should not be blind to their circumstances, either.

Our residents tend to be much better educated than most. Over a quarter of adults (those aged 25+) have a bachelor's degree, and 40% have a graduate degree, which is substantially higher than in any of the other areas I looked at (four times as high as in the U.S. as a whole, for example). We live in a pretty well-educated area (Fairfax County is also much better-educated than average), but even considering that, Montebello stands out.

Commuting

The third table contains a few statistics related to commuting. Most of the Montebello adults (those 16+) who work do so outside of Virginia (presumably in Maryland) – 60% of our workers fall into this category. Just under a quarter of our workers work within Fairfax County, and the remainder work in Virginia but outside of Fairfax County. These numbers stand out even when you compare them to our immediate surrounding areas: People living in Huntington and 22303 work within Fairfax County at about the same rate, but those working outside of Fairfax County are much more likely to work elsewhere in Virginia (about 32%) and are much less likely to work out of state (about 42%). Moreover, these numbers are very different from what you find in larger geographies – in the U.S.

as a whole, fewer than 4% of workers work outside their state of residence, and nearly three-quarters work inside their county of residence.

Although a majority of our workers drive alone to work (about 61%), this proportion is quite a bit lower than what you find in the larger geographies, where about three-quarters of people drive alone to work.

And given the proximity of the Huntington Metro station, it should not come as a surprise that between 30% and 35% of people at Montebello, and in Huntington/22303, take public transportation to work. We also have a disproportionate number of people who work from home – nearly 7% of our workers do so, compared with under 5% for the U.S. as a whole, and just over 3% for Huntington and 22303.

For those workers not lucky enough to work from home, our median travel time is consistent with that from the surrounding areas, but our whole area tends to commute for a longer period than in both Virginia and the United States. We tend to spend about 32 minutes commuting (each way), about the same as for all of Fairfax County, as well as 22303 and Huntington.

	Montebello	Huntington	22303	Fairfax Co.	Virginia	U.S.
PLACE OF WORK						
In county of residence	23.8%	26.5%	25.8%	53.8%	48.3%	72.4%
In state of residence	16.0%	31.7%	32.3%	24.0%	42.7%	23.8%
Outside state of residence	60.1%	41.8%	41.8%	22.2%	9.0%	3.8%
TRANSPORT TO WORK						
Drove alone	60.8%	56.2%	55.7%	71.7%	77.5%	76.4%
Carpool	0.6%	4.0%	4.0%	9.4%	9.4%	9.5%
Public transit	32.0%	34.7%	35.3%	9.8%	4.6%	5.1%
Worked from home	6.7%	3.5%	3.2%	5.8%	4.6%	4.4%
Other	0.0%	1.7%	1.7%	3.3%	3.9%	4.6%
Median travel time						
	32.5	32.1	32.6	32.0	27.9	25.9

montebello by the numbers

Housing

Finally, a few statistics about housing. The rate of owner-occupancy (about 62%) at Montebello is about the same as that in the entire U.S., but slightly lower than Virginia and the whole of Fairfax County, where about two-thirds of housing units are owner-occupied. Our owner-occupancy rate is quite a bit higher than that of Huntington and 22303, though, which is a shade below 50%. Renters occupy just under 40% of our units. In 22303 and Huntington, the rental rate is well over 50% – high in comparison, but not unexpected when you consider the large apartment complexes at the intersection of Huntington Avenue and Route 1.

The size of both households and

are not exactly the same. The Census Bureau defines a family as “A householder and one or more people living in the same household who are related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption.” A family could be two spouses without kids; the traditional mom, dad, and kids; grandparents raising grandkids, and so on – really, any combination of related people. A household, on the other hand, consists of the person/people occupying a housing unit. A household could be a single person, a householder with a roommate, a couple who is not married but living together, etc. A household could include a family, or it could include multiple families. The average household size is usually smaller

have slightly higher rates of mobility, which aligns with their higher rental rate (renters are much more mobile than owners are). Of people who did move to Montebello, the largest percentage (7%) moved here from another state. Outside of our immediate area, the more common pattern is movement within the county of residence, followed by movement with the state of residence. Relatively few people move across state lines, or from abroad.

Finally, our median monthly housing cost of \$1,800 is a little bit higher than what you’d find in the immediate surrounding areas (about \$1,700), but lower than the overall rate for Fairfax County (nearly \$2,000). It is certainly cheaper to live elsewhere in Virginia (\$1,200) or the U.S. (\$1,000), but I suspect that most of us feel that it is worth it!

Conclusion

These tables show just how distinctive Montebello really is, from the immediate areas of Huntington and ZIP code 22303, as well as from Fairfax County, Virginia, and the United States. Of course, what I have shown here is just a small subset of the available statistics, and it is certainly possible that in other realms we are more like other places. If there are other statistics of interest, I encourage you to spend some time perusing American FactFinder, the Census Bureau’s data tool that helped me generate all of these tables. In the next installment, I will try to show how our area has changed over time. 🏠

Some technical notes on the numbers:

- (1) These results come from the five-year American Community Survey (ACS) data, released in 2015 and including data gathered from 2011-2015. All statistics come from the U.S. Census Bureau website (www.census.gov), specifically American FactFinder.

	Montebello	Huntington	22303	Fairfax Co.	Virginia	U.S.
TENURE						
Owner-occupied	61.8%	42.6%	45.7%	67.7%	66.2%	63.9%
Renter-occupied	38.2%	57.4%	54.3%	32.3%	33.8%	36.1%
COMPOSITION						
Average family size	2.43	2.85	2.87	3.37	3.17	3.24
Average HH size	1.63	2.00	2.04	2.85	2.62	2.64
MOBILITY						
Didn't move	85.1%	77.1%	77.5%	85.3%	84.4%	85.1%
Within county	5.6%	5.8%	5.3%	6.8%	6.7%	8.8%
Within state	2.3%	5.8%	6.3%	2.7%	4.9%	3.2%
From another state	7.0%	10.2%	9.4%	3.5%	3.2%	2.3%
From abroad	0.0%	1.1%	1.5%	1.7%	0.8%	0.6%
Median Housing Costs	\$1,800	\$1,699	\$1,711	\$1,972	\$1,209	\$1,003

families is somewhat smaller for Montebello than it is for other areas. Our average household size is 1.63, while our average family size is 2.43, which is the smallest of any of the areas I looked at. Multi-unit developments like ours tend to have smaller household sizes, since condominiums and apartments tend to be smaller than single-family houses, and therefore cannot readily accommodate larger households.

The average household and family sizes differ because the two terms

than average family size because the household count includes single-person households, whereas the family count, by definition, must include at least two people.

One area where Montebello does not stand out is in mobility – about 85% of our residents (those at least a year old) did not move in the previous 12 months, a number exactly in line with the mobility rate for the U.S., and very similar to the rates for Fairfax County and Virginia. Huntington and 22303

- (2) These numbers come from survey data, and as such are subject to various forms of response and nonresponse bias. In other words, they may not exactly reflect the true numbers in the population as a whole. This is especially true at smaller levels of geography, such as a census tract. (You can help improve these numbers! If your household falls into the monthly ACS sample, please complete your form and return it promptly.)
- (3) The Census Bureau calculates margins of error for each of its statistics; I have not included them here, but they are available on the Census Bureau's website.
- (4) I have not tested these comparisons for statistical significance – that is, apparent differences may come from the bias mentioned above, and may not reflect a true difference in the population. Given the relatively large sample sizes in play, this is not likely, but it always remains a possibility.
- (5) As I noted in the first installment of this feature, the four high-rise buildings of Montebello comprise their own census tract, plus one house over on Biscayne. Building 5 is not included. Throughout the discussion, for the sake of clarity I refer to our Census tract as “Montebello” even though this is not 100% precise. I spoke with the Fairfax County government about adjusting the tract boundaries for the 2020 decennial census. They will try to remove the house on Biscayne, which the woman acknowledged was probably an error, but they likely will not be able to do anything about including Building 5 – tract boundaries generally follow roads or other topographical features. The four high-rise buildings are easy to set off because they have roads/driveways surrounding them, but Building 5 does not.
- (6) The Montebello census tract nests fully within all of the other geographies, but the Huntington Census Designated Place and ZIP code 22303 do not perfectly overlap – not all of Huntington is within 22303, and 22303 includes areas other than Huntington. As you can see, these two geographies are very similar to one another, but there is not exact agreement between them.

Board approves new radios, outdoor lighting study, and volunteer guidelines

By *Mikhailina Karina*

The Board of Directors has approved \$24,000 to purchase new radio equipment for Montebello's security staff. Thirty analog radios, which often make communication difficult, will be replaced with a digital system, announced General Manager George Gardner at the Tuesday night meeting. He hopes to sell existing radios as surplus on eBay.

Gardner also reported that an outdoor lighting survey has been completed and a contract for \$9,000 will be awarded to “Contractor 3” to design and select fixtures for Montebello's 76 street lights. In the next two months, three light prototypes on taller poles will be mounted in parking lots to test for nighttime glare and to gauge community feedback. A town hall meeting will allow residents to share their thoughts. “We should get it done this year,” Gardner said of the time line for replacing outdoor fixtures.

Director Guido Zanni, chair of the Quality Improvement Committee, reported that 13 30-second surveys have been completed over the past year. Two upcoming surveys will address *The Times of Montebello* and the Elections Committee. His root cause analysis of volunteering for committees will continue with a study of what motivates “a group of loyal volunteers” to continue to serve on committees. This will complement his findings about the barriers to committee participation.

In the mood to roll up your sleeves to volunteer some time and effort at Montebello? The new Managing Volunteers resolution unanimously passed by the board makes it a cinch to pull out some weeds – if the following rules (from the board packet at http://www.montebello.org/document_view.asp?id=3020&lr=1) are obeyed to “eliminate liability.”

A. Project Coordinator:

The General Manager will design-

nate a staff member to serve as the Coordinator for all requests for the use of volunteers;

B. Project Identification:

Organizations and individuals wishing [to] volunteer or lead a volunteer effort to complete a project will use a volunteer request template to provide the Coordinator with a request that includes:

- tasks to be accomplished;
- the expected results of the effort;
- the requested duration;

C. Project Approval:

The Coordinator will brief the General Manager and the General Manager will determine whether to accept or reject the project request.

D. Resources:

Resources may be requested from the Association and approved by the General Manager, including tools, plants, and approval for delivery of approved items and delivery locations;

E. Supervision:

As applicable, the designated project supervisor or individual volunteer will report monthly to the Coordinator on the progress and any unexpected issues.

F. Staff Assistance:

It is expected that staff support will not be labor intensive or overly time consuming.

G. Termination of Volunteer Agreement:

The General Manager shall have the authority to terminate a volunteer agreement if the volunteer activities performed under such an agreement are determined by the General Manager to be inappropriate or are not enhancing the Montebello community and its property.

About two dozen people attended the meeting, which lasted under an hour. 📺

fourth of july parade



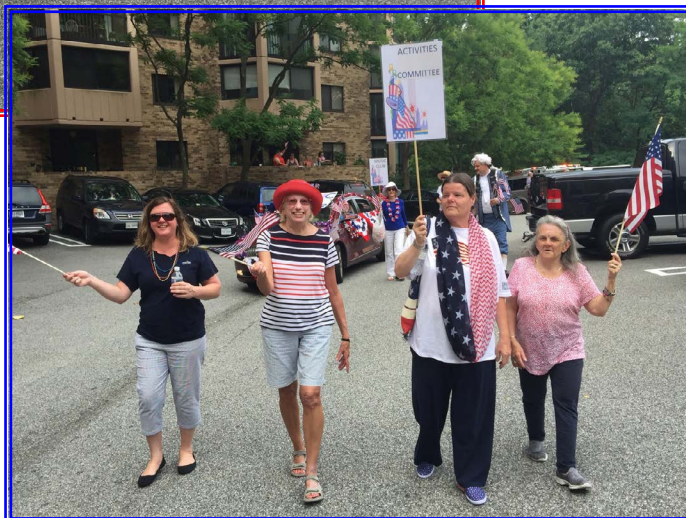
Photos by Dian McDonald

fourth of july parade



Photos by Dian McDonald

fourth of july parade



Photos by
Diane Bastin

fourth of july parade



Photos by Diane Bastin
The Montebello Voice



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Chess Game Night with Chess Club

All Levels! All Welcome!
Beginners to Grandmasters!
Play! Share! Learn! Practice!
No Commitment! Just Fun!



4th Thursday
of Each Month (generally)
C.C. Card Room
7:00pm to 9:30pm (latest)



Bring your own Chess Set if you like! – And, if you're brand new to Chess, but you'd like to check out our Chess Club while playing a relatively "quiet" or "cerebral" game that *doesn't* "compete" with the ancient game of Chess from a *noise* perspective, you may bring such a game and hang out with us! (Examples of Games that partner well with Chess: Scrabble, Checkers, Othello, etc.)

Contact Lisa J. Stedje at lisa@stedje.com
and/or Nick Nickerson at fxnixson@gmail.com
for more information.



and



Invite you to our film & discussion



THE KING OF COMEDY

THURSDAY JULY 27 7:30 P.M. PARTY ROOM 2

It's no laughing matter.

Nobody knows Rupert Pupkin, but after 11:30 tonight no one will ever forget him.



While many of Scorsese's films are terrific indeed, they pale by comparison with Scorsese and De Niro's finest – and most often overlooked – work: *The King of Comedy*. The salutary tale of an aspiring comedian who kidnaps his idol, Jerry Langford (Jerry Lewis, playing close to type), in order to ensure a TV spot, *The King of Comedy* has more to say about the parlous state of modern celebrity culture than any other movie I can call to mind. As the borderline psychopath Rupert Pupkin, De Niro channels the most terrifying elements of *Taxi Driver's* Travis Bickle, his delusional (and supposedly humorous) "at home" monologues every bit as alarming as Bickle's oft-quoted "You talkin' to me?" tirade." (*The Guardian*)

Joel Miller will introduce the film and lead the post-movie discussion

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final glance



I love a parade

Photo by Diane Bastin